

9th lecture

FERMION FIELDS

after the toolbox, now the real stuff.

so far discussed Hamiltonians & Lagrangians for bosonic fields

but Universe contains also fermions (leptons & quarks)

these are very different quanta \leftarrow bosons socialize

different statistics \leftarrow fermions avoid each other

$$\psi(\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \dots) = +\psi(\gamma_2, \gamma_1, \dots)$$

$$\psi(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots) = -\psi(\epsilon_2, \epsilon_1, \dots)$$

in nonrelativistic quantum mechanics, an addition postulate its origin remains obscure — it comes from relativistic QFT

Pauli-Lüders: Spin-Statistics Theorem

First try

- seek a relativistic Lagrangian describing spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ fields
- recall: $SO(1,3) \simeq SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R$ reps labelled by (j_L, j_R)
- basic spinor reps: $(\frac{1}{2}, 0)$ left-handed Weyl spinor $\xi_{\alpha=1,2}$
- $(0, \frac{1}{2})$ right-handed Weyl spinor $\eta_{\dot{\alpha}=1,2}$

start with $\xi_{\alpha}(\vec{r}, t) \in (\frac{1}{2}, 0) \rightsquigarrow (\xi_{\alpha})^* = \xi_{\dot{\alpha}}^* \in (0, \frac{1}{2})$

$$[\sigma_{\mu} = (\mathbb{1}, \vec{\sigma})], \quad \xi^{\alpha} = \epsilon^{\alpha\beta} \xi_{\beta}, \quad \xi^{\alpha} \square \xi_{\alpha} \text{ or } \partial_{\mu} \xi^{\alpha} \partial^{\mu} \xi_{\alpha}$$

next best: are not real!

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{fermi}} = i \xi^{\alpha} (\sigma^{\mu})_{\alpha\dot{\beta}} \partial_{\mu} \xi^{\dot{\beta}} = i \xi^{\alpha} \partial_{\alpha\dot{\beta}} \xi^{\dot{\beta}}$$

by construction Lorentz-invariant & hermitian for hermiticity

describes massless left-handed fermion & its antiparticle

dimensions: $[\chi] = M^4 \rightsquigarrow [\xi] = M^{3/2} \Leftrightarrow [\phi] = [A] = M$

analogous to bosonic quantum field:

put system into a box $L \times L \times L$ ($V = L^3$)

$$\xi_\alpha(x+l, y, z, t) = \xi_\alpha(x, y+l, z, t) = \xi_\alpha(x, y, t+L, z) = \xi_\alpha(x, y, z, t)$$

periodic boundary conditions

$$\text{Fourier expansion: } \xi_\alpha(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_{\vec{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^3} \xi_\alpha^{\vec{n}}(t) e^{2\pi i \vec{n} \cdot \vec{r} / L}$$

$$L = \int d^3x \mathcal{L} = V \sum_{\vec{n}} \left\{ i \xi_{\vec{n}}^\alpha \delta_{\vec{n}, \vec{n}'} \frac{d}{dt} \xi_{\vec{n}'}^{*\beta} + \frac{2\pi n_i}{L} \xi_{\vec{n}}^\alpha (\sigma_i)_{\alpha\beta} \xi_{\vec{n}}^{*\beta} \right\}$$

$\sum_{\sigma^0 = \pm 1}$

$\sigma^M = i = -\sigma_i$

sum of non-interacting complex modes $\xi_{\vec{n}}^\alpha(t)$, 1st order in ∂_t

focus on one of these modes, say $\vec{n} = (0, 0, 1)$, put $L = 1$

$$\leadsto \mathcal{L}_{(001)} = i \left(\xi_1^{*\alpha} \dot{\xi}_1^\alpha + \xi_1^2 \dot{\xi}_1^{*\alpha^2} \right) + 2\pi \left(\xi_1^{*\alpha} \xi_1^\alpha - \xi_1^2 \xi_1^{*\alpha^2} \right) \left\{ \sigma_3 = (-1) \right\}$$

canonical momenta: $\Pi_{\xi^\beta} = i \xi^\beta$, $\Pi_{\xi^\alpha} = -i \xi^{\alpha}$ | constraint: we only one

canonical pairs $(\xi^\alpha, \xi^{\alpha}) \rightarrow$ Poisson bracket $\{ \xi^\alpha, \xi^{\alpha} \} = -i$

$$H_{(001)} = \pi \sum_{\xi^* \beta} \dot{\xi}^{*\beta} \xi^{*\beta} - L_{(001)} = 2\pi \left(\sum_{\xi^*} \xi^{*2} - \sum_{\xi^*} \xi^{*4} \right)$$

[normal for 1st-order Lagrangians $L = \dot{q}^2 \rightsquigarrow \pi \dot{q} = q \dot{q} \rightsquigarrow H = V$]

• this is a pair of harmonic oscillators!

rename $\xi \rightarrow b$, $\xi^2 \rightarrow a$, $\omega = \frac{2\pi}{2}$

$H_{osc} = \omega (a a^* - b b^*)$ with $\{a, a^*\} = \{b, b^*\} = -i$

quantize: $a \rightarrow \hat{a}$, $a^* \rightarrow \hat{a}^\dagger$, $b \rightarrow \hat{b}$, $b^* \rightarrow \hat{b}^\dagger$, $[\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = [\hat{b}, \hat{b}^\dagger] = 1$

symmetrize $\rightsquigarrow \hat{H}_{osc} = \frac{\omega}{2} (a a^\dagger + a^\dagger a - b b^\dagger - b^\dagger b) = \omega (a^\dagger a - b^\dagger b)$

• energy spectrum $a|0\rangle = b|0\rangle = 0$

$$|n_1, n_2\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n_1! n_2!}} (b^\dagger)^{n_1} (a^\dagger)^{n_2} |0\rangle \rightarrow \text{☹}$$

$\hat{H}_{osc} |n_1, n_2\rangle = E_{n_1, n_2} |n_1, n_2\rangle$ with $E_{n_1, n_2} = \omega (n_2 - n_1) = E_{(001)}$

$|n_1, n_2\rangle =$ state with n_1 particles +ve & n_2 particles with -ve velocity
 each with momentum $\vec{p} = \frac{2\pi \hbar}{L} (\vec{0}) \left(\frac{1}{2} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{u} \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix} \right) = +\frac{1}{2} \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix} \right), \frac{1}{2} \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{u} \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix} \right) = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{smallmatrix} \right) \right)$
 \rightarrow no ground state \downarrow



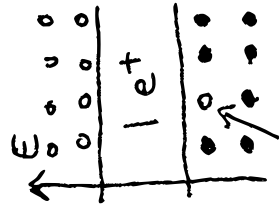
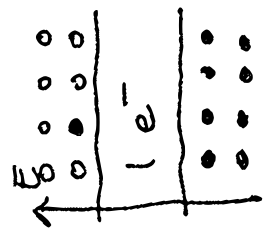
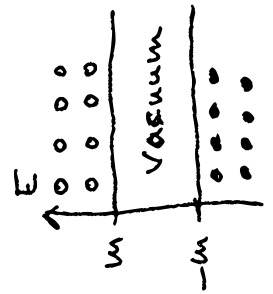
the Dirac sea

Dirac's proposal to solve the no-ground-state problem:

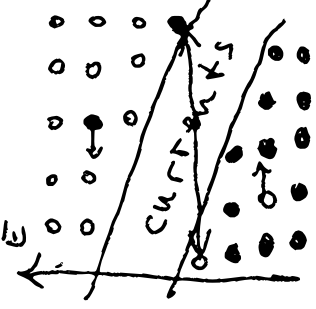
- electron has mass $m \approx E_p = \pm \sqrt{p^2 + m^2}$, mass gap (no ext. field)
- accept Pauli's principle: each quantum state occupiable once
- new vacuum ("Dirac sea"): all states with $E_p < 0$ filled

$$|\text{sea}\rangle = \prod_{\vec{p}} b_{\vec{p}}^\dagger |0\rangle$$

& subtract infinite energy shift



switch on electric field



holes = +ve-energy antiparticles solves problem

but: how to derive Pauli principle from Dirac equation?

answer: Pauli-Fierz (1940), Berezin (~1960s)

feynman used ANTicommutation relations classical fermi fields are Grassmann

$e^- \rightarrow 2\pi$

Excursion: Grassmann algebra

"anti commuting numbers"

$$\uparrow a_i^2 = 0$$

- let $\{a_i\}_{i=1, \dots, n}$ be a basis with $a_i a_j + a_j a_i = 0$
element of Grassmann algebra is a function

$$f(a) = c_0 + c_{ij} a_i a_j + c_{ijk} a_i a_j a_k + \dots$$

where $c_0, c_{ij}, c_{ijk}, \dots \in \mathbb{R}$ or \mathbb{C} . Series terminates at power a^{n+1}
even powers of a_i are "even" \leadsto commute with all

odd powers of a_i are "odd" \leadsto anticommute with odd ones

\leadsto only c_0 is a regular number, other even parts are nilpotent

- addition & multiplication & scalar multiplication \rightarrow algebra

- differentiation: $\frac{\partial}{\partial a_i} 1 := 0, \frac{\partial}{\partial a_i} a_j := \delta_{ij}$

- graded Leibniz rule: $\frac{\partial}{\partial a_2} (a_1 a_2) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial a_2} a_1\right) a_2 - a_1 \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial a_2} a_2\right) = -a_1$

- integration: $\int da_i f(a) := \int df / da_i$ just a linear functional

- conjugation: $n = 2m$ even \leadsto divide $\{a_1, \dots, a_{2m}\} = \{a_1, \dots, a_n, a_1, \dots, a_n\}$
define involution $a_i \leftrightarrow a_i^t$ with $c_{i_1 \dots i_n} \leftrightarrow c_{i_1^t \dots i_n^t}^*$, $(fg)^t = g^t f^t$

Grassmann waves

switch classical fermion variables to Grassmann numbers

$$L = -i \dot{\xi} \xi^{\dagger} + \omega \xi \xi^{\dagger} = i \dot{\xi} \xi^{\dagger} - \omega \xi^{\dagger} \xi$$

can also move ξ onto ξ^{\dagger} via partial integration

$$\text{with } \xi \xi^{\dagger} + \xi^{\dagger} \xi = 0, \quad \xi^2 = 0 = \xi^{\dagger 2}, \quad \{\xi, \xi^{\dagger}\} = -i$$

$$\text{e.o.m.: } -\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\xi}} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial \xi} = 0 \quad \leadsto \quad i \dot{\xi}^{\dagger} + \omega \xi^{\dagger} = 0$$

$$\text{hermitian conjugate} \quad \leadsto \quad i \dot{\xi} - \omega \xi = 0$$

$$\text{note: } L^{\dagger} = L \text{ because } (\dot{\xi} \xi^{\dagger})^{\dagger} = \xi \dot{\xi}^{\dagger} \xrightarrow{\text{e.i.}} -\dot{\xi} \xi^{\dagger} \\ (\xi \xi^{\dagger})^{\dagger} = \xi \xi^{\dagger}$$

Poisson bracket:

$$\{f, g\} := -i \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial g}{\partial \xi^{\dagger}} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \xi^{\dagger}} \frac{\partial g}{\partial \xi} \right) \quad \text{order relevant}$$

time evolution in Grassmann phase space spanned by ξ & ξ^{\dagger}

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \{H, f\} \text{ with } H = \omega \xi^{\dagger} \xi \quad \leadsto \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \dot{\xi} = \omega \xi^{\dagger} \xi, \xi^{\dagger} \dot{\xi} = -i \omega \xi \\ \dot{\xi}^{\dagger} = \omega \xi \xi^{\dagger}, \xi^{\dagger} \dot{\xi}^{\dagger} = i \omega \xi^{\dagger} \end{array} \right\} \quad \checkmark$$

• quantization for phase space $\{q_i, p_i, \xi_\alpha, \xi_\alpha^\dagger\}$

for f or g even: $i\{f, g\} \rightarrow [\hat{f}, \hat{g}] = \hat{f}\hat{g} - \hat{g}\hat{f}$ commutator

if f and g odd: $i\{f, g\} \rightarrow [\hat{f}, \hat{g}]_+ = \hat{f}\hat{g} + \hat{g}\hat{f}$ anticommutator

e.g. $[\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta^\dagger]_+ = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$, $[\xi_\alpha, \xi_\beta]_+ = 0 = [\xi_\alpha^\dagger, \xi_\beta^\dagger]_+$

realize in "ξ space": $\xi \rightarrow \xi$, $\xi^\dagger \rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi}$

[check: $[\xi, \xi^\dagger]_+ f = \xi \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} f + \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} (\xi f) = f \sqrt{\quad}$

$$\Pi_\xi = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{\xi}} = -i\xi^\dagger \rightarrow -i \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi}$$

$H = \omega \xi^\dagger \xi = \frac{\omega}{2} (\xi^\dagger \xi - \xi \xi^\dagger) \rightarrow \hat{H} = \frac{\omega}{2} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \xi - \xi \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \right)$ linear!

• spectrum: wave functions $\psi(\xi) = a + b\xi$ Hilbert space is 2-dim'l

energy eigenstates: $\psi(\xi) = 1$

$$E = \frac{\omega}{2}$$

$\psi(\xi) = \xi$

$$E = -\frac{\omega}{2}$$

Pauli principle emerges!

"fermionic harmonic oscillator"

• quantization

for bosons: commutative algebra $\xrightarrow{q\hbar}$ Heisenberg algebra $[\hat{q}, \hat{p}] = i$

for fermions: Grassmann algebra $\xrightarrow{q\hbar}$ Clifford algebra $[\hat{\xi}, \hat{\xi}] = 1$

• back to $L_{(001)} = i \left(\sum \xi^{\dagger 1} + \xi^2 \xi^{\dagger 2} \right) + \frac{2\pi}{L} \left(\sum \xi^{\dagger 1} - \sum \xi^2 \right)$

now assume $\sum^{\alpha}, \xi^{\dagger \beta}$ to be Grassmannian

$$H = \frac{2\pi}{L} \left(-\sum \xi^{\dagger 1} + \sum \xi^2 \xi^{\dagger 2} \right)$$

antisym.

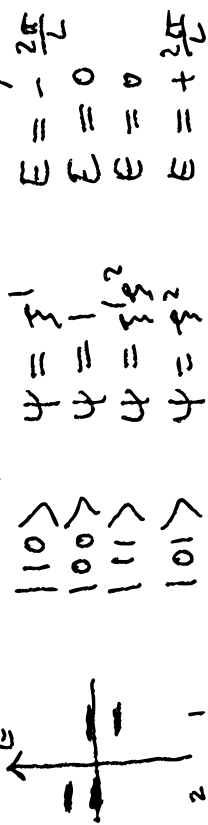
$$= \frac{\pi}{L} \left(\sum \xi^{\dagger 1} - \sum \xi^{\dagger 1} + \sum \xi^2 \xi^{\dagger 2} + \sum \xi^2 \xi^{\dagger 2} \right)$$

quantize \leadsto

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\pi}{L} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^1} \xi^1 - \xi^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^1} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^2} \xi^2 + \xi^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^2} \right)$$

• spectrum: wave functions $\psi(\xi^1, \xi^2) = a + b\xi^1 + c\xi^2 + d\xi^1\xi^2$

Hilbert space is 4-dim'l, energy eigenbasis:



bounded from below
no infinite towers
 ξ^1 carries +ve helicity
 ξ^2 carries -ve helicity

• Full Hamiltonian is a sum over $\vec{n} \in \mathbb{Z}^3 \rightarrow$

eigenstates = tensor products $\otimes_{\vec{n}} | \dots \rangle_{\vec{n}}$ ↓ Dirac sea interpretation

$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Dirac sea} \\ \text{interpretation} \end{array} \right\}$

- $|110\rangle_{\vec{n}} \quad \xi_{\vec{n}}^1 \quad E_{\vec{n}} = -\frac{2\pi}{L} |\vec{n}| \quad \rightarrow$ Dirac sea vacuum (unoccupied)
- $|100\rangle_{\vec{n}} \quad 1 \quad E_{\vec{n}} = 0 \quad \rightarrow$ right-handed hole, $\vec{p} = -\frac{2\pi\vec{n}}{L}$
- $|111\rangle_{\vec{n}} \quad \xi_{\vec{n}}^1 \xi_{\vec{n}}^2 \quad E_{\vec{n}} = 0 \quad \rightarrow$ (left-handed) particle, $\vec{p} = +\frac{2\pi\vec{n}}{L}$
- $|101\rangle_{\vec{n}} \quad \xi_{\vec{n}}^2 \quad E_{\vec{n}} = +\frac{2\pi}{L} |\vec{n}| \quad \rightarrow$ both particle + hole

change the zero-energy (and momentum) level such that $|110\rangle_{\vec{n}} =: |\text{vac}\rangle_{\vec{n}}$ but $E'_{\vec{n}} = 0$ (Dirac sea vacuum)

quartet of states:

- vacuum $E'_{\vec{n}} \quad \vec{p}'_{\vec{n}}$
- left-handed particle $e_L^- \quad 0 \quad 0$
- right-handed anti-particle $e_R^+ \quad \frac{2\pi}{L} |\vec{n}| \quad \frac{2\pi\vec{n}}{L}$
- both $\frac{2\pi}{L} |\vec{n}| \quad -\frac{2\pi\vec{n}}{L}$
- $\frac{4\pi}{L} |\vec{n}| \quad 0$

$\hookrightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\text{kin}} = i \int \psi^\alpha \partial_{\mu} \psi^{\dagger \beta}$ describes e_L^- & e_R^+ (with mass = 0)

electromagnetic interaction: Dirac equation

for a description of electrons must couple to A_μ

- try to write Lorentz- & gauge-invariant \mathcal{L} for ξ^α & A_μ with minimal interaction:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + i \xi^\alpha (\sigma^\mu)_{\alpha\beta} (\partial_\mu - ie A_\mu) \xi^\dagger \beta$$

is invariant under

$$A_\mu(x) \rightarrow A_\mu(x) + \partial_\mu \lambda(x), \quad \xi_\alpha(x) \rightarrow e^{-ie\lambda(x)} \xi_\alpha(x)$$

covariant derivative

$$D_\mu = \partial_\mu + ie A_\mu \quad (D_\mu \xi^\alpha, D_\mu^\dagger \xi^\dagger \beta \text{ transform like } \xi^\alpha, \xi^\dagger \beta)$$

- not full realistic because

- theoretically: has a "chiral anomaly" at qu. level \rightarrow $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{non-} \\ \text{renorma-} \\ \text{litizable} \end{array} \right.$
 - phenomenologically: need e^- & e^+
- \rightarrow double degrees of freedom by adding a second copy $\psi \rightarrow e^-$ tied ψ with another fermi field $\psi_\alpha(x)$ of opposite charge: $\psi \rightarrow e^+$ tied ψ

$$\mathcal{L}_{\xi\eta} = i \bar{\xi}^\alpha (\sigma^\mu)_{\alpha\beta} (\partial_\mu - ie A_\mu) \xi^{\dagger\beta} + i \eta^\alpha (\sigma^\mu)_{\alpha\beta} (\partial_\mu + ie A_\mu) \eta^{\dagger\beta}$$

quantization yields: $\xi_\alpha \rightarrow e_L^-, e_R^+$, $\eta_\alpha \rightarrow e_L^+, e_R^-$

now, also a mass term is possible

$$\mathcal{L}_m = m (\bar{\xi}_\alpha \eta^\alpha + \eta^{\dagger\alpha} \xi_\alpha^\dagger) \quad \text{Dirac mass term}$$

for a single fermion it is possible to write

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{maj}} = m (\bar{\xi}_\alpha \xi^\alpha + \xi^{\dagger\alpha} \xi_\alpha^\dagger) \quad \text{Majorana mass term}$$

but only for electrically neutral fermions

(since it is not gauge-invariant for charged fermions)

$$\text{full QED: } \mathcal{L}_{\text{QED}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{Maxwell}} + \mathcal{L}_{\xi\eta} + \mathcal{L}_m$$

• more compact notation: Dirac (bi) spinor

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi^{\dot{\alpha}} \\ \xi_{\alpha} \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} 4 \text{ components of same charge} \\ \psi \rightarrow e^{-i\epsilon t} \psi \end{array}$$

$$\gamma^{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \bar{\sigma}^{\mu} \\ \sigma^{\mu} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} 4 \times 4 \text{ Dirac matrices (chiral repres.)} \\ \text{(in } 2 \times 2 \text{ block form)} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{3 others} \\ \text{7 others} \end{array}$$

$$\hookrightarrow \gamma^{\mu} \gamma^{\nu} + \gamma^{\nu} \gamma^{\mu} = 2\eta^{\mu\nu} \mathbb{1}_{4 \times 4} \quad \text{Clifford algebra}$$

• chirality

$$\text{define } \gamma^5 := i\gamma^0 \gamma^1 \gamma^2 \gamma^3 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\mathbb{1} \end{pmatrix} \sim \{\gamma^{\mu}, \gamma^{\nu}\} = 0, \quad (\gamma^5)^2 = \mathbb{1}$$

two eigenspaces:

$$EV = +1, \text{ projector } P_R = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma^5) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}: P_R \psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi^{\dot{\alpha}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} =: \psi_R$$

$$EV = -1, \text{ projector } P_L = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \gamma^5) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbb{1} \end{pmatrix}: P_L \psi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \xi_{\alpha} \end{pmatrix} =: \psi_L$$

left-chiral field $\psi_L \rightarrow$ left-handed e^- & right-handed e^+

right-chiral field $\psi_R \rightarrow$ right-handed e^- & left-handed e^+

• Dirac conjugation: $\bar{\Psi} := \Psi^\dagger \gamma^0 = (\xi_\alpha^*, \eta^\alpha)$

Why γ^0 ? rotations $(\Sigma^{ij})^\dagger = \Sigma^{ij}$

boost $(\Sigma^{0i})^\dagger = -\Sigma^{0i}$

but $(\Sigma^{\mu\nu})^\dagger = \gamma^0 \Sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^0 \rightsquigarrow \bar{\Psi}$ Lorentz-transforms correctly

invariants/covariants:

$$\bar{\Psi} \Psi = \xi_\alpha^* \eta^\alpha + \eta^\alpha \xi_\alpha \quad \text{scalar (1)}$$

$$\bar{\Psi} \gamma^5 \Psi \quad \text{pseudoscalar (1)}$$

$$\bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu \Psi \quad \text{vector (4)}$$

$$\bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \Psi \quad \text{pseudovector (4)}$$

$$\bar{\Psi} \gamma^{\mu\nu} \Psi = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\lambda} \bar{\Psi} \gamma_{\rho\lambda} \gamma^5 \Psi \quad (6)$$

• full QED Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QED}} = -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} + i \bar{\Psi} \gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu + ie A_\mu) \Psi - m \bar{\Psi} \Psi$$

invariant under $A_\mu \rightarrow A_\mu + \partial_\mu \lambda$ & $\Psi \rightarrow e^{-i\lambda} \Psi$

total: 16 objects



16 components
 $\bar{\Psi}_A \Psi_B$

$$F^{\mu\nu} := \frac{1}{2} (\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu - \gamma^\nu \gamma^\mu)$$

fermion eqs. of motion:

$$i\gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu + ie A_\mu) \psi - m\psi = 0 \Leftrightarrow (i\not{\partial} - m)\psi = 0$$

with $\not{\partial} := \gamma^\mu \partial_\mu$ ← "Dirac equation"

is analog of KFG equation for boson fields
also double interpretation:

- classical field equation ($\psi =$ Grassmann field)

- single-particle wave equation ($\psi =$ wave eq., if A_μ small)

Maxwell eqs. of motion:

$$\partial_\nu F^{\nu\mu} = e \bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \psi =: e j^\mu \quad \text{electron. current}$$

$$\rightarrow 0 = \partial_\mu \partial_\nu F^{\nu\mu} = e \partial_\mu j^\mu \quad \text{charge conservation}$$

recommend: Dirac biography by Graham Farmelo
"the strangest man"

→ "Dirac eq. was a stroke of genius"